Extension of Purchase Preference Policy for PSUs

1434. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Group of Ministers has recommended for extension of Purchase Preference Policy for PSUs by three more years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry of Power is opposing the extension of Purchase Preference Policy;

(c) whether any threshold limit has been fixed on the value of tenders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Government, based on the recommendations of a Group of Ministers, has extended the Purchase Preference Policy (PPP) for three more years with clear stipulation that it will be terminated with effect from 31.3.2008.

(b) The Ministry of Power has been granted exemption from the PPP, subject to the condition that they will place certain orders to BHEL on a negotiated basis price benchmarked through competitively bid projects every year.

(c) and (d) The Government has decided that the purchase preference will be available to the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) for contracts including civil works and turnkey contracts of the value of Rs. 5 crore and above but not exceeding Rs. 100 crore.

CABE Committee recommendations

1435. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) Committee has suggested uniform physical and human

infrastructure and provision of 25 per cent seats in private schools for the poor children, in primary education;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations of the committee; and

(c) the status of implementation of these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The CABE Sub Committees on Girls' Education and the Common School System and on Free and Compulsory Education Bill and Other issues related to elementary education have recommended reservation of 25-30 per cent of seats for poor children in primary education. While the first report mentions of merit as the criteria for admission the latter report suggests random selection.

(c) The implementation of the recommendations will be taken up after acceptance by the Government.

Reservation on religious basis

1436. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minsiter of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been ordering reservation of seats on religious basis in Central Universities in their graduation and post-graduation level's courses;

(b) the details of such universities alongwith the respective orders issued during the last ten years;

(c) the principles governing issuance of orders for reservations on such basis;

(d) the average proportion of students belonging to various religions, including the reserved ones, secured admission in the respective universities pursuant to such order during the above period, stream-wise and year-wise; and

(e) the details of the provisions of reservations of seats, if any, under other categories in vogue in those Central Universities alongwith the years of their introduction?